

Senate Engrossed

State of Arizona  
Senate  
Forty-sixth Legislature  
First Regular Session  
2003

CHAPTER 20

# **SENATE BILL 1040**

AN ACT

AMENDING SECTIONS 32-2022 AND 32-2024, ARIZONA REVISED STATUTES; RELATING TO  
THE BOARD OF PHYSICAL THERAPY.

(TEXT OF BILL BEGINS ON NEXT PAGE)

Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Arizona:

Section 1. Section 32-2022, Arizona Revised Statutes, is amended to read:

32-2022. Qualifications for licensure and certification

A. An applicant for a license as a physical therapist shall:

1. Be of good moral character.

2. Have completed the application process.

3. Be a graduate of a professional physical therapy education program accredited by a national accreditation agency approved by the board.

4. Have successfully passed the national examination approved by the board.

5. HAVE SUCCESSFULLY PASSED A JURISPRUDENCE EXAMINATION THAT TESTS THE APPLICANT'S KNOWLEDGE OF BOARD STATUTES AND RULES.

B. An applicant for a license as a physical therapist who has been educated outside of the United States shall:

1. Be of good moral character.

2. Have completed the application process.

3. Provide satisfactory evidence that the applicant's education is substantially equivalent to the requirements of physical therapists educated in accredited educational programs as determined by the board. If the board determines that a foreign educated applicant's education is not substantially equivalent it may require the person to complete additional course work before it proceeds with the application process.

4. Provide written proof that the applicant's school of physical therapy education is recognized by its own ministry of education.

5. Provide written proof of authorization to practice as a physical therapist without limitation in the country where the professional education occurred.

6. Provide proof of legal authorization to reside and seek employment in the United States or its territories.

7. Have the applicant's educational credentials evaluated by a board approved credential evaluation agency.

8. Have passed the board approved English proficiency examinations if the applicant's native language is not English.

9. Have participated in an interim supervised clinical practice period before licensure.

10. Have successfully passed the national examination approved by the board.

11. HAVE SUCCESSFULLY PASSED A JURISPRUDENCE EXAMINATION THAT TESTS THE APPLICANT'S KNOWLEDGE OF BOARD STATUTES AND RULES.

C. Notwithstanding the requirements of subsection B, if the foreign educated physical therapist applicant is a graduate of an accredited educational program as determined by the board, the board may waive the requirements of subsection B, paragraphs 3, 4, 7 and 9.

1 D. An applicant for certification as a physical therapist assistant  
2 shall meet the following requirements:

- 3 1. Be of good moral character.
- 4 2. Have completed the application process.
- 5 3. Be a graduate of a physical therapist assistant education program  
6 accredited by an agency approved by the board.
- 7 4. Have successfully passed the national examination approved by the  
8 board.
- 9 5. HAVE SUCCESSFULLY PASSED A JURISPRUDENCE EXAMINATION THAT TESTS THE  
10 APPLICANT'S KNOWLEDGE OF BOARD STATUTES AND RULES.

11 Sec. 2. Section 32-2024, Arizona Revised Statutes, is amended to read:  
12 32-2024. Examinations

13 A. The board shall conduct examinations in this state at least  
14 quarterly at a time and place prescribed by the board. The board shall  
15 determine the passing score.

16 B. An applicant may take the examination for licensure after the  
17 application process has been completed. The national examination shall test  
18 entry level competency related to physical therapy theory, examination and  
19 evaluation, diagnosis, prognosis, treatment intervention, prevention and  
20 consultation.

21 C. An applicant may take the examination for certification after the  
22 application process has been completed. The national examination shall test  
23 for requisite knowledge and skills in the technical application of physical  
24 therapy services.

25 D. An applicant for licensure or certification who does not pass the  
26 examination after the first attempt may retake the examination one additional  
27 time within six months after the first failure without reapplication for  
28 licensure or certification. Before the board may approve an applicant for  
29 subsequent testing beyond two attempts, an applicant shall reapply for  
30 licensure or certification and shall demonstrate evidence satisfactory to the  
31 board of having successfully completed additional clinical training or course  
32 work, or both, as determined by the board.

33 E. THE BOARD SHALL NOT ISSUE A LICENSE OR CERTIFICATE TO A PERSON WHO  
34 PASSES AN EXAMINATION THROUGH FRAUD.

APPROVED BY THE GOVERNOR APRIL 1, 2003.

FILED IN THE OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY OF STATE APRIL 1, 2003.

Passed the House March 25, 20 03,

by the following vote: 57 Ayes,

0 Nays, 3 Not Voting

Jake Flake  
Speaker of the House

Norman L. Moore  
Chief Clerk of the House

Passed the Senate January 30, 20 03,

by the following vote: 29 Ayes,

1 Nays, 0 Not Voting

Ken Bennett  
President of the Senate

Charmine B. Bunting  
Secretary of the Senate

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT OF ARIZONA  
OFFICE OF GOVERNOR

This Bill was received by the Governor this

26 day of March, 2003

at 12:08 o'clock P M.

Sandra Ramirez  
Secretary to the Governor

Approved this 1 day of

April, 2003,

at 2<sup>00</sup> o'clock P M.

J. A. Nagle  
Governor of Arizona

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT OF ARIZONA  
OFFICE OF SECRETARY OF STATE

This Bill was received by the Secretary of State

this 1 day of April, 2003,

at 4:20 o'clock P M.

Janice K. Brewer  
Secretary of State

S.B. 1040